

*Amendments*

Please amend the application as follows:

*In the Specification:*

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 1 with the following paragraph:

<sup>1</sup>  
D

Examples of commercially obtainable random-branched PEI with different molecular weights which is suitable within the scope of the present invention are PEI 700 D, PEI 2000 D, PEI 25000 D, PEI 750000 D (Aldrich), PEI 50000 D (Sigma) and PEI 800000 D (Fluka). BASF also market random-branched PEI under the brand name Lupasol® in different molecular weights (Lupasol® FG: 800 D; Lupasol® G 20 anhydrous: 1300 D; Lupasol® WF: 25000 D; Lupasol® G 20: 1300 D; Lupasol® G 35: 2000 D; Lupasol® P: 750000 D; Lupasol® PS: 750000 D; Lupasol® SK: 2000000 D).

*In the Claims*

Please replace pending claim 35 with the following claim 35:

<sup>1</sup>  
sub (1)  
+ 2

~~35.~~ (Amended) Complexes of nucleic acid and random-branched polyethyleneimine (PEI), characterized in that the PEI is modified with a hydrophilic polymer covalently coupled thereto,

wherein said complexes are formed by (a) mixing solutions of nucleic acid and PEI and afterwards, covalently modifying the PEI with hydrophilic polymer or (b) mixing solutions of nucleic acid and PEI, which has been covalently modified with hydrophilic polymer before said mixing.